

and receiving the transmit data output signal from the transmit circuit at a receive data input, the receive circuit comprising a receive data output, the receive circuit producing a receive data output signal at the receive data output based on transmit data output signal when the receive circuit is operating in a normal mode, the receive circuit further comprising a receive repeating pattern generator producing the repeating pattern signal, the receive circuit producing a comparison signal based on comparison dependent on the transmit data output signal and the repeating pattern signal when the receive circuit is operating in the test mode, as recited in claim 1. As another example, Applicant submits that Elpers et al. fail to disclose the steps of generating a receive repeating pattern in the receive circuit; and comparing the transmit repeating pattern to the receive repeating pattern to obtain a comparison, as recited in claim 9. Additionally, Elpers et al. fail to disclose a system wherein...the receive repeating pattern generator comprises a receive shift register, as recited in claim 2. Also, Elpers et al. fail to disclose a system wherein...a receive shift register output of the receive shift register is coupled to a receive shift register input of the receive shift register when the receive circuit is operating in the test mode, as recited in claim 3. Furthermore, Applicant can find no mention in the cited portions of Elpers et al. of a system wherein the transmit data output signal is communicated over a single conductor referenced to a ground voltage, as recited in claim 7. Also, Applicant can find no mention in the cited portions of the specification of Elpers et al. of a system wherein the transmit data signal is communicated as a differential signal over two conductors, as recited in claim 8. Additionally, Applicant can find no teaching in Elpers et al. of a step of adjusting a parameter affecting operation of the transmit circuit based on the comparison, as recited in claim 10. Furthermore, Applicant can find no mention in Elpers et al. of a step of utilizing a shift register to generate the transmit repeating pattern, as recited in claim 12. Also, Applicant can find no teaching in Elpers et al. of a step of transmitting the transmit repeating pattern as a signal referenced to a ground, as recited in claim 14. Additionally, Applicant can find no teaching in Elpers et al. of a step of transmitting the transmit pattern as a differential signal over a pair of conductors, as recited in claim 15. Thus, Applicant submits that claims 1-3, 7-10, 12, 14, and 15 are in condition for allowance.

The Examiner has objected to claims 4-6, 11, 13, and 16-21 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but states that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Examiner states as reasons for allowance that prior art fail to teach the use of linear feedback shift register in the repeating pattern generator, the parameter consist of a group of crosstalk cancellation coefficient and self-equalization coefficient, determining boundary value of the receiver characteristic, adjust the receiver characteristic of the

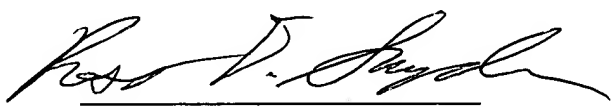
receiver circuit. The Examiner further states that it is these features found in the claim, as they are claimed in the combination, that has not been found, taught or suggested by the prior art of record which makes this claim allowable over the prior art.

Applicant submits, in view of Applicant's arguments presented above in regard to claims 1-3, 7-10, 12, 14, and 15, that the Examiner's objection of claims 4-6, 11, 13, and 16-21 have been obviated. Thus, Applicant submits that claims 4-6, 11, 13, and 16-21 are in condition for allowance.

In conclusion, Applicant has overcome all of the Office's rejections, and early notice of allowance to this effect is earnestly solicited. If, for any reason, the Office is unable to allow the Application on the next Office Action, and believes a telephone interview would be helpful, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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